GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:333
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2001
FOOD FOR WORK PROGRAMME
MOHAMMED SHAHABUDDIN;RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food for Work Programme and providing food for starving people have not been implemented fully by the various State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, state-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement the scheme in all the States;

(d) whether some States like Orissa have shown their reluctance in implementing this programme unless bearing the cost involved in this programme is decided by the Union Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) to (c) No Sir. The Food for Work Programme was started in January 2001, to make available foodgrains as part of wages to the rural poor in 8 drought affected States namely Gujarat, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra & Orissa. The Foodgrains were lifted by all the States except Uttaranchal.Later the Food for Work Programme was extended to cover other calamities like flood, earthquake etc. Subsequently, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka and Kerala were added to the list of the affected States. The total quantity of foodgrains allocated to the 11 States which have benefited from this programme is 28.63 lakh tonnes. Out of this 22.45 lakh tonnes has been lifted from FCI godowns for distribution as part of wages among the rural poor. The percentage of foodgrain lifted is 78.44 and percentage of foodgrains distributed is 60.28. The state-wise details are given in Annexure.

(d) & (e) No Sir. As regards Orissa out of 2.50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains allotted to the State, 2.46 lakhs tonnes has been lifted.The percentage of foodgrains lifted is 98.57%. As per the latest statement received from the State Government 1.29 lakh tonnes of foodgrains has been distributed as part of wages upto September 2001.